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ULVERSTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

For the Year 1950.

ULVERSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1950.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Ulverston Urban
District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1950.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	3,196
Population	...	...	...	9,925
Number of inhabited houses			...	2,989
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£60,718
Amount produced by a penny rate				£235.937

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

One hundred and fifty-eight births, 88 male and 70 female, were registered during the year, giving a birth rate of 16.7 per 1,000, compared with a rate of 17.9 per 1,000 in 1949. Three of the births were of illegitimate children.

STILLBIRTHS.

Three stillbirths were registered giving a stillbirth rate of 19 per 1,000 total births.

DEATHS.

One hundred and forty-seven deaths of residents occurred during the year, 72 male and 75 female, giving a crude death rate of 14.8 per 1,000. The adjusted death rate after correction for age and sex distribution is 13.0 per 1,000 compared with 12.8 per 1,000 in 1949.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Seven deaths of infants under one year of age occurred. The sexes, ages and causes of death were :—

Male.	5 months.	Intussusception.
Female	7 days.	Congenital heart, absence of right lung.
Female.	2 months.	Broncho-pneumonia.
Female.	10 months.	Broncho-pneumonia, whooping cough.
Female.	1 day.	Congenital atelectasis.
Male.	2 months.	Lobar pneumonia, congenital atelectasis of lung.
Male.	1 month.	Broncho-pneumonia, premature birth.

DEATHS FROM DIARRHOEA AND ENTERITIS UNDER TWO YEARS OF AGE :—Nil.

MATERNAL MORTALITY :—Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH.

The table below shows the causes of death of Urban District residents in 1950.

CAUSES OF DEATH.				Male.	Female.	Total
1	Respiratory tuberculosis	...	...	1	3	4
2	Other tuberculosis	...	...	—	—	—
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	1	—	1
4	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	1	1
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	—	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	—	1	1
8	Measles	...	...	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	—	—	—
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	4	4	8
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung and bronchus	...	...	1	1	2
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	—	1	1
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	—	1	1
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	4	6	10
15	Leukaemia and aleukaemia	...	...	—	1	1
16	Diabetes	...	...	1	—	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	9	9	18
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	8	4	12
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	1	2	3
20	Other heart disease	...	...	22	22	44
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	1	1	2
22	Influenza	...	...	1	1	2
23	Pneumonia	...	...	2	2	4
24	Bronchitis	...	...	—	—	—
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	—	1	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	1	—	1
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	—	1	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	2	1	3
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	1	—	1
30	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	...	...	—	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	—	1	1
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	8	11	19
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	3	—	3
34	All other accidents	...	...	—	—	—
35	Suicide	...	...	1	—	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	—	—	—
				72	75	147

The chief causes of death of Urban District residents in 1950 as shown by the above table were:—Heart Diseases 59, Vascular lesions of nervous system 18, Cancer 22.

CANCER.

Brief particulars of the 22 deaths from this disease are shown below :—

Site.					Male.	Female.	Total.
Stomach	...	...	...	...	4	4	8
Rectum	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
Colon	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Prostate	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
All other sites	...	...	...	...	2	6	8
					9	13	22

The table below shows comparisons between birth and death rates in England and Wales, 148 smaller towns and this district.

Year	England and Wales.		148 Smaller Towns. 25—50,000 population.		Ulv. Urban District.	
	Births	Deaths.	Births	Deaths.	Births	Deaths.
1946...	19.1	11.5	21.3	11.7	18.1	12.3
1947...	20.5	12.0	22.2	11.9	20.4	15.1
1948...	17.9	10.8	19.2	10.7	16.7	12.7
1949...	16.7	11.7	18.0	11.6	17.9	12.8
1950...	15.8	11.6	16.7	11.6	16.7	13.0

NOTE. The death rates for the Ulverston Urban District quoted in the above table for the years 1946-1948 inclusive are the crude death rates. Those quoted for 1949 and 1950 are the adjusted death rates after correction for age and sex distribution. These figures are more comparable with the rates quoted for England and Wales, and for 148 smaller towns.

The birth rates quoted are adjusted birth rates in all cases.

The age distribution of deaths in 1950 is shown below :—

	-1	1- 5-	10-	20-	30-	40-	50-	60-	65-	70-	75-	80-	85-	90-	Ttl
M	3	0	0	1	3	2	2	7	8	11	10	15	7	3	72
F	4	0	1	0	2	1	2	6	4	8	12	12	12	9	75
Ttl	7	0	1	1	5	3	4	13	12	19	22	27	19	12	147

68.8 per cent of deaths occurred in persons of 65 and over.

General Provision of Health Services.

PERSONNEL.

Medical Officer of Health:—A. Dodd, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S.,
(to 28th February, 1950). L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health:—J. L. Wild, M.A., M.B., B. Chir.
(from 1st April, 1950). M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Other Appointments held:— Medical Officer of Health—Dalton-
in-Furness Urban District —
Grange-over-Sands Urban Dis-
trict—Ulverston Rural District.

Divisional Medical Officer: Health
Division No. 1, Lancashire
County Council.

Sanitary Inspector:—

C. T. Hague, Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, R.S.I.

Other Appointments held:—

Engineer and Surveyor— Ulverston Urban District Council.

Manager, Water Undertaking — Ulverston Urban District Council.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:—

D. Sartorius, Joint Board Certificate —Certificate R.S.I, Meat and Other Foods.

Other Appointments held:—

Meat Inspector— Ulverston Urban District Council.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological examinations are carried out at the laboratories of the Barrow and Furness Hospital Management Committee assisted, if necessary, by the Public Health Laboratory at Liverpool.

Chemical analyses, as required, are sent to the City Laboratories, Liverpool.

Maternity and Child Welfare, School Medical, Dental and Health Visiting Services.

These services are provided by the Lancashire County Council. Routine child welfare clinics, minor ailment clinics, dental clinics and school medical and dental inspections are undertaken by Assistant Divisional Medical and Dental Officers with health visitors and school nurses. The ophthalmic surgeon, obstetrician and orthopaedic specialist attend the appropriate eye, ante-natal and post-natal and orthopaedic clinics at Ulverston and Dalton-in-Furness.

The times and places where the County Council Clinics are held are shown below :—

ULVERSTON—The Rookery, Brogden Street.

Monday a.m. Minor Ailments Redressing Clinic.
Dental Clinic.

p.m. Ante-Natal Clinic.
Dental Clinic.

Tuesday a.m. Orthopaedic Clinic.
Dental Clinic.

p.m. Dental Clinic.
Orthopaedic Clinic (every two months).

Wednesday a.m. Minor Ailments and Inspection Clinic.
p.m. Child Welfare Centre.

Thursday a.m. Ophthalmic Clinic.
Dental Clinic.

p.m. Dental Clinic.

Friday a.m. Nil.
p.m. Nil.

Saturday a.m. Immunisation Clinic, second Saturday each month, 10—11 a.m.

DALTON—Dowdales Clinic :

Monday	a.m.	Nil.
	p.m.	Immunisation, First Monday each month, 2 p.m.
Tuesday	a.m.	Minor Ailments Redressing Clinic.
	p.m.	Nil.
Wednesday	a.m.	Ophthalmic Clinic.
	p.m.	Ante-Natal Clinic.
Thursday	a.m.	Minor Ailments and Inspection Clinic.
	p.m.	Child Welfare Clinic.
Friday	a.m.	Dental Clinic.
	p.m.	Dental Clinic.

CONISTON—Church Rooms, Yewdale Road :

First Friday each month, p.m., Child Welfare Centre.

KIRKBY—Beckside School :

Third Friday each month, p.m., Child Welfare Centre.

HAWKSHEAD—Town Hall :

Last Wednesday each month, p.m., Child Welfare Centre.

GRANGE—Congregational Sunday School, Kents Bank Road :

Tuesday fortnightly, p.m., Child Welfare Centre.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER SUPPLY.

Water is supplied by Barrow Corporation from Pennington Reservoir to the Ulverston Urban District Council's water-works at Castle Hill, Pennington. Here the water is sand filtered before storage in a service reservoir of $2\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons capacity. Before passing into the trunk main for distribution the water is subjected to chlorination.

The supply of water was adequate during the year.

The supply serves 2,881 dwelling houses, representing approximately 9,320 population, and serves also, by standpipes, 96 dwelling houses, representing approximately 430 persons.

Fifteen houses in the Urban District representing approximately 60 persons, have a water supply from private sources, e.g. wells, springs, etc.

HOUSING.

During 1950 the Urban District Council erected 18 permanent houses all of which were tenanted at the end of the year.

In March, 1950, a start was made in developing Croftlands Estate. This will eventually be a small neighbourhood unit of approximately 1,000 houses and will be developed in the course of the next 20 years.

There is much old and sub-standard property in the town which will require attention under the Housing Acts as soon as new houses are available.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases.

The following table shows the numbers of cases of the notifiable infectious diseases, after correction, which occurred in the Urban District during the five years 1945-1949 compared with the numbers in 1950.

Disease	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950		
						No. of Cases	Removed to Hospital	No. of D'ths
Scarlet Fever	6	5	6	33	17	15	13	—
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Typhoid and para-typhoid	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	20	1	56	1	—	208	—	—
Whooping Cough	14	4	3	—	46	30	1	1
Pneumonia	2	2	5	8	6	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	6	—	3	—	—	—
Polioencephalitis	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Dysentery	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	53	15	79	42	74	253	14	1

Apart from an outbreak of measles in the early part of the year the incidence of infectious disease was low.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The tuberculosis service in the Ulverston Urban District is administered by the Regional Hospital Board. The Sanitary Authority and the County Council are responsible for matters relating to prevention and to care and after-care. A tuberculosis health visitor is provided by the Lancashire County Council. The Dispensary at Ulverston is attended by the Consultant Tuberculosis Officer for the district and the Tuberculosis Health Visitor. Extensive facilities for the investigation and treatment of tuberculosis are available at High Carley Sanatorium, near Ulverston.

The following table shows the number of new cases and mortality during 1950.

Age Periods		New Cases				Deaths			
Years		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	....	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10—	....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	....	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—	....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—	....	—	1	1	—	1	2	—	—
35—	....	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
45—	....	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
55—	....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65—	....	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
75 and upwards		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	3	6	3	0	2	3	0	0
		9		3		5		0	

The table below shows the numbers of new cases and deaths from tuberculosis in Ulverston residents during the past twelve years.

Year	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1939	4	3	3	4	3	1	—	—
1940	3	6	7	6	3	—	1	1
1941	4	6	7	4	1	—	—	—
1942	7	5	4	7	3	3	—	1
1943	11	14	3	5	3	3	1	—
1944	9	7	5	6	1	2	1	—
1945	4	10	3	2	4	1	—	—
1946	8	2	1	2	5	1	—	—
1947	6	3	1	2	—	3	—	—
1948	1	6	1	—	4	4	—	—
1949	1	4	2	—	1	1	—	—
1950	3	6	3	—	2	3	—	—

It will be noticed that there has been an increase in the number of new cases notified during 1950, following a decrease during each of the preceding five years. No significance can be attached to the increase during the single year 1950.

In conclusion I thank the Members of the Health Committee and the Officers of the Ulverston Urban District Council, and, in particular the Sanitary Inspector and Additional Sanitary Inspector, for courtesy and help.

The reports of the Sanitary Inspector and the Additional Sanitary Inspector are appended.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. L. WILD,

Medical Officer of Health

Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report, 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit a summary of the work relating to Public Health Administration carried out by the Department during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1950.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS, ETC.

Insanitary privy closets	2
Insanitary ashpits	10
Insufficient accommodation for house refuse	32
Defective and obstructed drains and W.C.s	11
Inadequate water supplies	5
Inadequate drainage	3
Verminous premises	20
Accumulations or deposits	3
Defective premises	48
Miscellaneous	3
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The above complaints in the main were dealt with by informal action, two cases were dealt with by service of statutory notices under the Public Health Act, 1936.

Some difficulty has been experienced in getting repairs carried out due to the reluctance of property owners to expend money on property which is no longer an economical proposition.

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Slum Clearance is still in abeyance.

Two houses were found to be unfit for human habitation and not repairable at reasonable expense. The houses were closed and undertakings given by the owners not to re-let for human habitation.

PERMANENT HOUSING.

1. LOCAL AUTHORITY.

During the year under review 18 Council houses were completed.

2. PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

Eleven licenses for permission to erect small dwellings were issued, and thirty dwellings were either completed or commenced during the year.

ADAPTATIONS AND CONVERSIONS.

One license was issued in respect of the adaptation of an existing dwelling to form two flats.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The system has received the usual attention and has been maintained in an efficient manner.

All drains and private sewers laid by local contractors have been tested and inspected. The connections to the public sewers have been made by the department's staff.

Details of a new Sewerage Scheme are being prepared. This will include a new outfall sewer carrying the Swarthmoor and Croftlands Park sewage to the outfall at Carter's Pool and remedial works to prevent flooding in the Town.

WATER SUPPLY.

A pure and adequate water supply has been maintained without interruption throughout the year.

SHOPS ACT, 1934 and 1950 ; FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Liaison has been maintained with H.M. Factories Inspectors and cases arising have been dealt with satisfactorily.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

A regular weekly collection of refuse has been maintained throughout the year. Disposal of the refuse has been by controlled tipping and the tip has been maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Treatments have been carried out at the tip to prevent infestations by rodents and insects.

SALVAGE.

The Council maintains Waste Food Bins throughout the Town. These bins are emptied by local pig and poultry keepers. Waste Paper is collected by a waste paper merchant working under the supervision of the Council.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following cases have been notified

Scarlet Fever	15
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Disinfection of premises has been carried out as follows:—

Scarlet Fever	15
Tuberculosis	5
Other Causes	4

RAT DISINFESTATION.

This work continues satisfactorily. Routine treatments of the sewers, controlled tip, sewage works, salvage depot and beck courses have been carried out.

No. of treatments carried out :—

Private Houses	158
Business premises	18
Local Authority properties	28
Agricultural property	38
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	242

In conclusion I wish to take this opportunity of recording my appreciation of the loyal co-operation of the staff of the Health Department during the past year.

The report of Mr. D. Sartorius with respect to the inspection and supervision of food is appended.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

C. T. HAGUE,

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor

Supervision and Inspection of Food.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit a summary of the work carried out during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1950.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Under present Ministry of Food arrangements slaughtering for Ulverston and Grange Urban Districts and Ulverston Rural Districts is centralised at The Abattoir, The Gill, Ulverston.

The premises have been considerably improved during the year. The internal arrangements are more satisfactory and the outside appearance is more presentable.

It will be observed from figures quoted below that the number of cattle and calves slaughtered increased whilst the number of sheep and pigs slaughtered showed a slight decrease.

Number of animals slaughtered at the Abattoir :

YEAR.	CATTLE.	CALVES.	SHEEP.	PIGS.	TOTAL.
1950	1558	1494	5826	82	8960
1949	1211	1456	6579	128	9374

All carcasses and offals were inspected.

Number of whole carcasses and offals condemned :

YEAR.	BEEF.	VEAL.	MUTTON.	PORK.	TOTAL
1950	67	118	29	4	218
1949	56	79	44	4	183

Causes of Condemnation.

1. Cattle :	Generalised Tuberculosis	24	
	Other Causes	43	
		—	67
2. Calves :	Congenital Tuberculosis	5	
	Immaturity	90	
	Other Causes	23	
		—	118
3. Sheep :	Oedema and Emaciation	20	
	Other Causes	9	
		—	29
4. Pigs :	Fevered Flesh	4	4

In addition to the above, portions of carcasses were condemned due to injuries and localised diseased conditions. Large quantities of offals have been condemned. The livers of cattle and sheep have been particularly affected due to the prevalence of liver fluke in this district.

UNSOUND FOOD.

The following articles of unsound food have been voluntarily surrendered by the owners for destruction.

Tins of Milk	94
Tins of Meat	21
Tins of Ham	26 lbs.
Tins of Fruit	29
Tins of Fish	18
Tins of Peas	26
Tins of Beans	21
Tins of Soup	13
Tins of Carrots	9
Tins of Potatoes	9
Tin of Cocoa	1
Sauces	4
Cake mixture	74 packets
Pressed Beef	6 lbs.
Poultry	5
Flour	3 lbs.
Jam	4 lbs.
Nougat	17 packets
Pasteurised Cheese	100 packets
Bacon	34½ lbs.
Cheese	20 lbs.

The Bacon and Cheese were returned to Ministry of Food Agents for Salvage.

MILK SUPPLY.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries supervise the production of milk. The Local Authority supervises the distributors of milk and their premises where milk is **not** produced.

The number of retail distributors of milk decreased during the year due to the tendency of farmers to sell milk wholesale and due to the disposal of the retail rounds.

The sale of tuberculin tested and pasteurised milk again increased over the year.

Twenty-two samples of milk were submitted for biological examination. One sample proved positive to the tubercle test and appropriate action was taken.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938, AND CLEAN FOOD BYE-LAWS, 1950.

Inspections of food shops and preparing premises have been made and attention drawn to any unsatisfactory conditions at the time of inspection.

ICE CREAM.

Number of manufacturers registered for the manufacture, sale and storage of ice-cream ... 2.

Number of retailers registered for sale only ... 13.

The provisions of the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations have been complied with.

Samples of ice-cream submitted for examination proved satisfactory.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

D. SARTORIUS,

Additional Sanitary Inspector.

